Disinvestment in Neyveli Lignite Corporation

1787. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had taken a decision to make disinvestment of 10 per cent of Government's equity in Neyveli Lignite Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have decided on capacity expansion of various open cast projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) The issue of disinvestment of 10 per cent equity of Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited out of the Government's holding is under consideration of the Government. A final decision is yet to be taken in this regard.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Government has sanctioned the following two projects for implementation by Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited:—

(1) Neyveli Mine-II expansion of 4.50 million tonnes per annum.

(2) Barsingsar Lignite Mine of 2.10 million tonnes per annum.

Rising Coal Stocks

1788. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Coal India Ltd. finds itself saddled with rising coal stocks;

(b) whether it is also a fact that at least five of its seven coal producing subsidaries are carrying an inventory that might be the highest in a decade; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by CIL to liquidate this rising stock of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. However, the present stock is less than the quantity stipulated in the stock policy of Coal India Limited (CIL) which is equivalent to one month production.